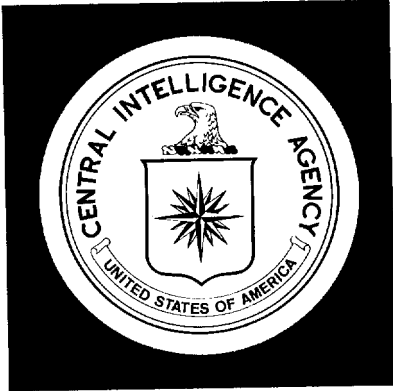


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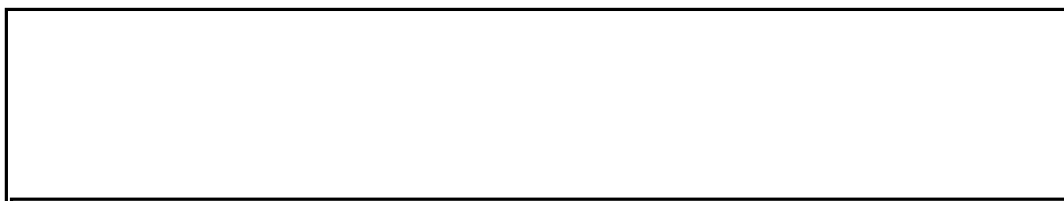
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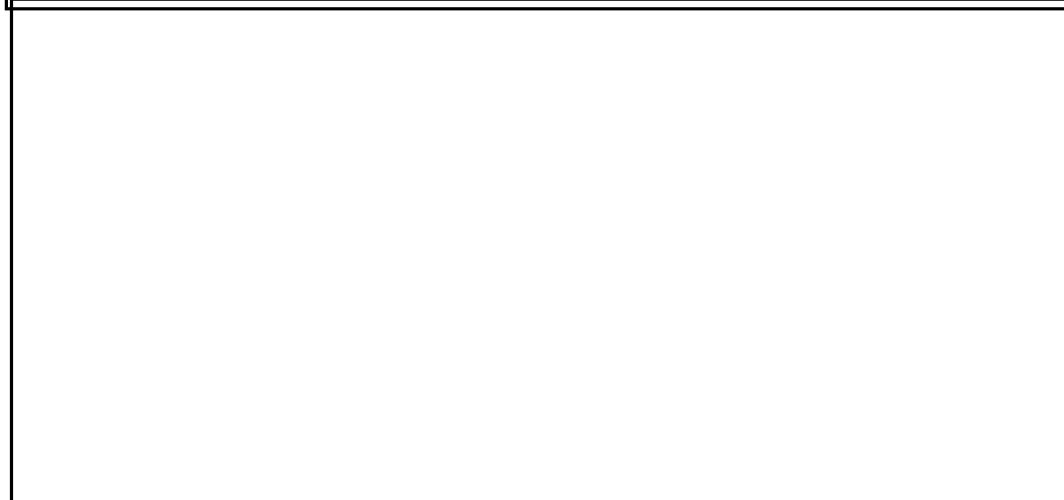
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EGYPT: Government leaders indicate displeasure over
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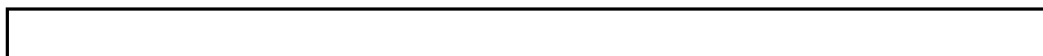


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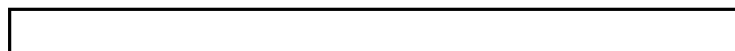


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NIGERIA: Government driving hard bargain with for-
eign oil companies (Page 9)



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EGYPT: Government leaders are signaling their regret over the Khartoum tragedy, but Cairo is likely to continue to provide moral and limited material support to the Palestinian cause.

A senior Egyptian official yesterday [] stated that the Egyptian Government from President Sadat on down is just as opposed to the murders in Khartoum as it was to the downing of the Libyan airliner by Israel. Cairo is avoiding actions or statements that would estrange Egypt from the Palestinians in general, but is taking a hard look at Egypt's Palestinians and their relationship to terrorism.

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The Egyptian Government is obviously distressed over the murders in the Sudan. Cairo realizes that the incident may adversely affect its current diplomatic drive to break the deadlock with Israel. It is therefore looking for the best way to handle the situation without further damage to Arab objectives.

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No official public statement on the events in Khartoum has been issued. Yesterday, however, the Egyptian press provided extensive reporting on President Numayri's criticism of Fatah, which reflects the government's unhappiness with the incident, albeit indirectly. Nonetheless, the Egyptians are likely to continue to support some Palestinian elements both to maintain Cairo's credentials as the leading Arab state and to avoid further alienating Libyan President Qadhafi.

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NIGERIA: In the opening round of participation negotiations with the major foreign oil companies, Nigerian representatives have asked for an initial 40-percent ownership, rising to 51 percent by 1979. Several other issues are at stake: the amount of oil Nigeria will have available for its own export, the price the government will receive for any oil the companies market on its behalf, and the amount of compensation to be paid for company assets. Nigeria will hold separate talks with Shell-BP, Gulf, and Mobil, but probably will use an agreement with Shell-BP, the largest producer, as a guideline for the other companies. The oil companies will want the Nigerian formula to be financially equivalent to agreements reached with Arab - Persian Gulf states. Although the companies are encouraged by the absence of polemics or threats so far, negotiations will be protracted.

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